

K22 GUIDE FOR REVIEWERS

Career Transition Award

Purpose of the Award

- To facilitate the transition of a basic or clinical investigator to a new independent research position.
- The award has two phases: Phase I is during the period the applicant seeks a new independent position; Phase II occurs when the applicant begins the new independent position.
- The award can be funded in both phases or in the second phase only. For those funded in Phase II only, support begins when a scientist is appointed to a new independent research position. NIH intramural scientists are only eligible for funding in Phase II.
- Although some K22 programs provide funding only for the Phase II, there must be a clear institutional commitment during Phase I to facilitating a timely transition of the applicant to a stable independent research position.
- The award is intended to facilitate the establishment of a record of independent research and/or the competitiveness of the investigator to obtain peer-reviewed research support.

Applicants

- For applicants not currently working at the NIH, the awards are for post-doctoral fellows or staff scientists intending to transition to an independent position. For NIH intramural scientists, the awards are for post-doctoral fellows, tenure-track, or tenured scientists who intend to transition to positions outside the NIH.
- Applicants must propose a research project that will be pursued during both phases of the award, including a mentoring plan (when applicable), and how the plan will help transition the applicant to independence.
- Applicants must also describe their current institution's environment and commitment to their goal of transitioning to a new independent position.

More Information

- Visit the [K-Kiosk](#) for Institute/Center specific K22 programs.
- To read more about the review criteria and considerations for K applications, visit <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/peer/critiques/k.htm> and [Review Criteria at-a-Glance](#).
- Please see the following documents for more information on scoring and critique templates: [Scoring System and Procedure](#), [Critique Template Instructions](#).
- A comprehensive list of Guidelines for Reviewers is available at http://grants.nih.gov/grants/peer/reviewer_guidelines.htm